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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 005946

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/21/2035

TAGS: [PINR](#) [SF](#)

SUBJECT: (C//NF) REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON SOUTH AFRICAN  
NONPROLIFERATION AND ENERGY OFFICIALS (C-AL9-02664)

REF: A. STATE 119646

[1](#)B. PRETORIA 002404

Classified By: ELISSA G. PITTERLE, DIRECTOR, INR/OPS

[1](#)1. (C//NF) WASHINGTON ANALYSTS ARE PREPARING TO SUPPORT  
AMBASSADOR TO SOUTH AFRICA GIP'S IMPENDING MEETING WITH  
ENERGY MINISTER DIPUO PETERS, AS WELL AS UPCOMING TRIPS OF  
UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS WILLIAM BURNS, SPECIAL  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT SUSAN BURK TO SOUTH AFRICA,  
AND OTHER USG OFFICIALS PARTICIPATING IN THE NUCLEAR SECURITY  
SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN APRIL AND THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION  
TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR MAY (REF A). AS TIME  
AND RESOURCES PERMIT, WE APPRECIATE POST'S VIEWS ON RECENT  
CHANGES IN SOUTH AFRICA'S PERSONNEL IN THE NONPROLIFERATION  
AND ENERGY FIELDS.

[1](#)A. (C//NF) QUESTIONS CONCERNING ENERGY MINISTER ELIZABETH  
DIPUO PETERS:

- 1) (C//NF) HOW DOES PETERS FIT INTO THE NONPROLIFERATION  
DECISIONMAKING PROCESS?
- 2) (C//NF) IS PETERS IN CONTROL AT THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT?
- 3) (C//NF) WHAT IS PETERS' RELATIONSHIP WITH DIRCO MINISTER  
NKOANA-MASHABANE?
- 4) (C//NF) IS PETERS CONSIDERED CLOSE TO PRESIDENT ZUMA?
- 5) (C//NF) WAS PETERS WELL RESPECTED AS PREMIER OF THE  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (2004-MAY 2009)?
- 6) (C//NF) DOES PETERS GO BY THE NAME ELIZABETH OR DIPUO?  
HOW IS DIPUO PRONOUNCED?
- 7) (C//NF) WHAT IS PETERS LIKE TO DEAL WITH, AND WHAT ARE  
HER VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES?

[1](#)B. (C//NF) QUESTIONS CONCERNING FORMER SOUTH AFRICAN  
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE IAEA ABDUL MINTY, WHO WILL BE REPLACED  
IN JANUARY BY XOLISA MABHONGO (REF B):

- 1) (C/NF) WHAT WILL MINTY'S NEW ROLE BE, AND WILL HE  
CONTINUE TO PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE IN SOUTH AFRICA'S  
NONPROLIFERATION STRATEGY? WHAT LEVEL OF INFLUENCE DOES POST  
JUDGE HE WILL HAVE?
- 2) (C//NF) WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MINTY AND  
MABHONGO, AND DOES MINTY RESENT BEING REPLACED BY SOMEONE SO  
JUNIOR?
- 3) (C/NF) DOES MABHONGO SHARE MINTY'S NAM-CENTRIC VIEW OF  
NONPROLIFERATION, AND DOES HE HAVE ANY HOT-BUTTON ISSUES THAT  
HE'D LIKE TO SOLVE?
- 4) (C//NF) WHAT IS MABHONGO LIKE TO DEAL WITH? WHAT IS HIS  
FAMILY SITUATION? DOES HE HAVE ANY HOBBIES?

5) (C//NF) WHAT ARE MABHONGO'S VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES?

1C. (C//NF) WE HAVE LEARNED THAT JOHANN KELLERMAN, DIRCO DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND NONPROLIFERATION, HAS BEEN A LONG-TIME CONTACT OF THE EMBASSY. IF AVAILABLE, PLEASE PROVIDE PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT HIM. FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT HE IS LIKE TO DEAL WITH, HIS VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES, HOW HE FITS INTO THE DECISIONMAKING PROCESS, AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU THINK POLICYMAKERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HIM.

1D. (C//NF) PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES OF ANY OTHER NONPROLIFERATION OFFICIALS THAT POST SUGGESTS WE SHOULD FOLLOW, AS WELL AS THEIR POSITIONS AND ATTITUDES TOWARD PROLIFERATION ISSUES AND THE UNITED STATES.

12. (U) PLEASE CITE C-AL9-02664 IN THE SUBJECT LINE OF REPORTING IN RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS.  
CLINTON